

Puppy Import (Prohibition) Bill

[AS INTRODUCED]

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[AS INTRODUCED]

A

B I L L

TO

Prohibit the import of young puppies; and for connected purposes.

BE IT ENACTED by the Queen’s most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1 Prohibition of puppy import

- (1) Subject to subsection (3), a person who imports a puppy into Great Britain commits an offence.
- (2) In this section, a “puppy” means a dog aged under six months.
- (3) The appropriate national authority may by regulations made by statutory instrument make provision for exceptions to the prohibition if—
 - (a) the import is for non-commercial purposes, and
 - (b) the puppy is compliant with all health and documentary requirements for entry into Great Britain, and
 - (c) evidence is provided that the prohibition of import would be a serious risk to the welfare of the puppy.
- (4) A person who commits an offence under this section is liable—
 - (a) on summary conviction in England and Wales, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months or a fine (or both);
 - (b) on summary conviction in Scotland, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months or a fine not exceeding the statutory maximum (or both);
 - (c) on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding five years or a fine (or both).
- (5) In this section, the “appropriate national authority” means—
 - (a) in relation to England, the Secretary of State;
 - (b) in relation to Wales, the Welsh Ministers;
 - (c) in relation to Scotland, the Scottish Ministers.
- (6) Regulations under this section—
 - (a) made by the Secretary of State may not be made unless a draft of the instrument has been laid before and approved by a resolution of each House of Parliament;

- (b) made by the Welsh Ministers may not be made unless a draft of the instrument has been laid before, and approved by a resolution of, Senedd Cymru;
- (c) made by the Scottish Ministers are subject to the affirmative procedure (see section 29 of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010).

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2 Extent, commencement and short title

- (1) This Act extends to England and Wales and Scotland.
- (2) This Act comes into force at the end of the period of 30 days beginning with the day on which it is passed.
- (3) This Act may be cited as the Puppy Import (Prohibition) Act 2024.

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Presented by John Spellar

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